

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing wallpaper on-demand, comprising the steps of:

utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path which passes a printhead on the way to a dispensing slot;
~~selecting~~ providing selection of a pattern and a configuration;
using one or more printer input devices which communicate with a processor to input the selected pattern and the configuration;
determining operation parameters of the printer; and
printing a roll of wallpaper, onto a web of blank media, on demand and in accordance with the determined operation parameters of the printer, according to the selected pattern and configuration.

2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the configuration comprises:
a selected width; and wherein
the width is captured as data with a printer input device; and
the printer is used to slit the web to the width.

3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the configuration comprises:
a selected roll length; and wherein
the roll length is captured as data with a printer input device; and
the printer is used to cut the web to the roll length.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:
charging a customer only for the length.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
acquiring data about pattern or configuration from a touchscreen display.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
providing the printer with a scanner on a tether for capturing data that specifies a selected pattern or other data.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:
allowing the customer to select a media type and using that media type in a replaceable media cartridge in the printer.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the pattern is selected from printed swatches which correspond to patterns that the printer is able to print on demand.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:
providing a plurality of swatches;
assigning a symbol to each swatch;
using the symbol as an input to a printer input device.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the configuration comprises one or more parameters selected from the group comprising: roll length, a roll slitting arrangement, one or more modifications to the pattern, or a media type to be printed on.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein:
the configuration comprises both roll length and a roll width slitting arrangement.
12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further comprises:
loading a media canister into the printer, the canister containing an unprinted web of media; and
using a motor in the printer to advance the unprinted web into the path;
automatically threading the media from the loading area, to the dispensing slot.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further comprises:

loading a disposable core into a winding area adjacent to the dispensing slot;
winding a printed roll of wallpaper onto a core; and
severing the printed roll on the core from the web.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further comprises:

severing the printed roll on the core from the web using an automated cutting mechanism inside the printer, the cutting mechanism receiving a signal for commencing cutting from the processor.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein:
the core is contained within a tote during winding.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
drying the web after it is printed on but before it is dispensed by the printer.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of:
drying the web after it is printed on but before it is dispensed by the printer.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
allowing a customer to design a custom pattern defined by data;
using the one or more input devices to capture the data; and
printing the custom pattern on demand.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
selling printed rolls as they are produced to eliminate printed wallpaper inventory.

20. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.02 square meters per second (775 square feet per hour).

21. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.1 square meters per second (3875 square feet per hour).
22. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the web of blank media is printed by the printhead at a rate exceeding 0.2 square meters per second (7750 square feet per hour).
23. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 7680 nozzles.
24. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 20,000 nozzles.
25. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 100,000 nozzles.
26. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead has more than 250,000 nozzles.
27. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 5 picoliters.
28. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 3 picoliters.
29. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printhead prints ink drops with a volume of less than 1.5 picoliters.

30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer is a self contained printer for producing rolls of wallpaper, the printer comprising:

a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media cartridge loading area to a winding area;

a full width digital color printhead located in the media path;

a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer.

31. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein utilizing an on-demand printer further comprises:

loading a media cartridge into the printer, the media cartridge, comprising:

a case in which a roll of blank media may be deployed;

the case having two halves, hinged together, an area between the two halves, when closed, defining a media supply slot; and

the case having internally and adjacent to the slot, a pair of rollers, at least one of the rollers being a driven roller which is supported at each end, by the case, for rotation by an external motor.

32. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a consumer tote for carrying the roll of wallpaper, the tote comprising:

a disposable exterior in which is formed a main access flap and a pair of core access openings; and

the tote having an interior in which is located a disposable core which is aligned with the access openings.

33. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a transverse cutter, the transverse cutter comprising:

a chassis having end plates;

the end plates being separated to allow a web of media to pass between them;

the end plates supporting between them a cutting blade; and

the blade supported at each end to perform a cutting motion which begins on one side of the web and finishes on an opposite side of the web.

34. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a slitting mechanism, the slitting mechanism comprising:

a chassis having end plates;

the end plates being separated by a transverse portion of the chassis to allow a web of media to pass between them;

one or more rotating slitting shafts extending between the end plates, each shaft having one or more slitters arranged along its length, each slitte r having a cutting edge; and

the slitting mechanism selectively engageable to either enter or not enter a path followed by the web according to an input provided by an operator of the printer.

35. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a dryer, the dryer comprising:

a compartment with a top opening for receiving a media web fed from the printer;

a source of heated air located above the top opening for blowing heated air into the opening to dry printing on the media web.

36. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer comprises:

a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area;

a printhead located in the media path;

a processor which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer wherein,

the length and design of the roll are determined by the operator inputs.

37. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area, there being a printhead located in the media path, a processor which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices;

using one or more input devices which communicate with the processor to capture data from an operator regarding a specification for an operator's requirements;

using the processor to operatively control the printer according to the data; and
printing a single roll of wallpaper, on demand, according to a selected pattern.

38. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 adapted for operating a wallpaper printing business, the method further comprising the steps of:

utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a printhead and from the printhead to a dispensing slot;

using one or more printer input devices which communicate with a processor to capture data regarding one or more customer's requirements;

the data comprising at least a customer selected pattern;

printing a roll of wallpaper, onto a web of blank media, on demand, according to the selected pattern; and

charging a customer for the roll.

39. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 adapted for operating a wallpaper printing franchise, the method further comprising the steps of:

providing to franchisees, an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a printhead and from the printhead to a dispensing slot;

the printer having one or more printer input devices which communicate with a processor to capture data regarding one or more customer requirements, the data comprising at least a customer selected pattern;

providing the franchisee with a collection of patterns in a digital storage medium that can be read by the printer;

enabling the franchisee to print a roll of wallpaper, onto a web of blank media, on demand, according to the selected pattern; and

obtaining or attempting to obtain a fee from the franchisee.

40. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer adapted to produce rolls of wallpaper, the printer comprising:

a frame in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area;

a printhead located across the media path;

one or more input devices for capturing operator instructions;

a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer.

41. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 adapted for printing wallpaper onto a web of media, the method further comprising the steps of:

utilizing an on-demand printer comprising a cabinet in which is located a media path, there being a full width printhead located across the media path, there being a processor which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices and which controls the printer;

using one or more input devices which communicate with the processor to capture data from an operator regarding a specification;

running the printer according to the data;

printing a single roll of wallpaper, on demand, according to a selected pattern and configuration;

changing the pattern according to a new datum from an operator; and

then printing a new roll onto the same web.

42. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 adapted for drying a moving web of media in a printer such as a wallpaper printer, the method further comprising the steps of:

loading the web in a path that traverses a compartment in a dryer within the printer, the compartment having an opening across the top;

allowing the moving web to descend into the compartment, as required; and

blowing heated air from above the opening.

43. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 adapted for supplying a media web to a wallpaper printer, comprising the steps of:

opening a reusable case;

placing into the case a core onto which has been located a supply roll of blank wallpaper media;

supporting the core for rotation within the case;

leading a free edge of the roll between a pair of rollers and past an edge of the open case; then

with the rollers located within the case and on either side of the web, closing the case and loading it into a printer.

44. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer has a printhead assembly which prints onto a moving web that follows a path, the printer comprising:

a full width printhead located across the path;

the printhead comprising a color printhead which is at least as wide as the web;

the printhead being supplied with a number of different inks which are remote from the printhead and which supply the printhead through tubes.

45. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer is adapted to produce rolls of wallpaper, the printer comprising:

a housing in which is located a media path which extends from a blank media intake to a wallpaper exit slot;

a multi-color roll width removable printhead located in the housing and across the media path;

the printhead being supplied by separate ink reservoirs, the reservoirs connected to the printhead by a an ink supply harness, there being a disconnect coupling between the reservoirs and the printhead;

one or more input devices for capturing operator instructions;

a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll.

46. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a consumer tote for carrying the roll of wallpaper, the tote comprising:

- a disposable exterior in which is formed a main access flap and a pair of core access openings;

- the tote having an interior in which is located a disposable core which is aligned with the access openings;

- both openings exposing a moulded coupling, one coupling attached to each end of the core, at least one of the couplings being a driven coupling and adapted to engage a driving spindle that rotates the core.

47. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer is adapted to print onto a moving web, the printer comprising:

- a full width stationary printhead located on a rail along which it slides for service and removal;

- a number of replaceable ink reservoirs which supply the printhead with different inks;

- the printhead comprising a color printhead which is at least as wide as the web; and

- the printhead being supplied with the different inks through tubes which can be disconnected so the printhead may be removed.

48. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer is a self threading printer for producing rolls of wallpaper, the printer comprising:

- a media loading area adapted to support a media cartridge in a position so that a media supply slot of the cartridge is closely adjacent to a pilot guide;

- a cabinet housing a media path which extends from the pilot guide to a printed media dispensing slot;

- a printhead located across the media path;

- a processor which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll;

- a motor within the cabinet for advancing a media web out of the media cartridge; and one or more other motors adapted to urge the media along the path and out of the slot.

49. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the determining step, the operation parameters of the printer are selected from the group consisting of ink fill levels, remaining media web length, media web tension and end-to-end integrity of the media web.